



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

August 10, 2020

CATHERINE M. CAMPBELL, TREASURER  
NATE MCMURRAY FOR CONGRESS  
PO BOX 161  
LEWISTON, NY 14092

**Response Due Date**  
**09/14/2020**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00666453

REFERENCE: 30 DAY POST-SPECIAL REPORT (06/04/2020 - 07/13/2020)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 6 item(s):

1. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions that appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act (see attached).

An individual or a political committee other than an authorized committee or qualified multi-candidate committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,800 per election. An authorized committee may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$2,000 per election. A qualified multi-candidate committee and all affiliated committees may not make a contribution(s) to a candidate for federal office in excess of \$5,000 per election. The term "contribution" includes any gift, subscription, loan, advance, or deposit of money or anything of value made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for federal office. (52 U.S.C. § 30116(a) and (f) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a) and (f)); 11 CFR § 110.1(b), (e) and (k))

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information. If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the excessive amount.

Excessive contributions may be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive portions are properly redesignated or reattributed. Guidelines for each option are provided below.

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For reattributions, excessive contributions from individuals can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly reattributed to another person. Please note that reattributions only apply to excessive contributions from individuals. An excessive contribution is considered properly reattributed if (1) the contributors provide the committee with written documentation, signed by each contributor, authorizing a reattribution and indicating the amount of the contribution to be attributed to each contributor; or (2) the committee reattributes by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution if the contribution was made on a written instrument from a joint account and was signed by only one of the account holders. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributors in writing within 60 days of receiving the contribution that the committee intends to reattribute the excessive portion and must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(k)(3)(ii)(B))

For redesignations, the funds can be retained if, within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount is properly redesignated for a different election. An excessive contribution is considered properly redesignated if (1) the committee obtains signed written documentation from the contributor(s) authorizing the redesignation of the contribution for another election, provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election; or (2) your committee redesignates by presumption the excessive portion of the contribution for another election provided that the new designation does not exceed the limitations on contributions made with respect to that election. In this case, the treasurer must notify the contributor of the redesignation in writing within 60 days of the treasurer's receipt of the contribution. The notification must give the contributor an opportunity to request a refund. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(5)(ii)(B)) Please note that you cannot presumptively redesignate an excessive contribution from a multi-candidate committee. Also, a contribution can only be redesignated to a previous election to the extent that the contribution does not exceed the committee's net debts outstanding for that election. (11 CFR § 110.1(b)(3)(i))

If the foregoing conditions for reattributions or redesignations are not met within 60 days of receipt of the contribution, the excessive amount must be refunded. See 11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1).

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide photocopies of any refund checks and/or letters reattributing or redesignating the contributions in question.

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Refunds are reported on Line 20(a), (b), or (c), as applicable, of the Detailed Summary Page and on a supporting Schedule B of the report covering the period in which they are made. Redesignations and reattributions are reported as memo entries on Schedule A of the report covering the period in which the authorization for the redesignation and/or reattribution is received. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(2), (3) and (4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of excessive contributions, your prompt action to refund, redesignate, and/or reattribute the excessive amount will be taken into consideration.

2. Schedule A of your report discloses one or more contributions from an organization(s) which is not a political committee registered with the Commission (see attached). In order for your committee to accept contributions from unregistered organizations, your committee should take steps to ensure that the contributor(s) used permissible funds to make the contribution(s) to avoid violating 52 U.S.C. §§ 30116(f) and 30118 (formerly 2 U.S.C. §§ 441a(f) and 441b) or 11 CFR §102.5(b). Under 11 CFR §102.5(b), organizations which are not political committees under the Act and choose to contribute to federal committees must either: (1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or (2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If any apparently prohibited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. In addition, please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible.

If you have received prohibited contributions, you must make a refund. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(1)) The refund must be made within 30 days of the treasurer becoming aware of the illegality of the contribution. (11 CFR § 103.3(b)(2))

If you have not already done so, please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of any refund checks. Refunds must be reported on a Schedule B supporting Line 20(b) or (c), as applicable, of the report covering the period in which the refund was made. (11 CFR § 104.8(d)(4))

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, your prompt action to refund the

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prohibited amount will be taken into consideration.

**3.** Column B figures for the Summary and Post-Election Detailed Summary Page information should equal the sum of the Column B figures on your previous report and the Column A figures on this report minus the Column C figures. Please file an amendment to your report to correct the Column B discrepancies for Line(s) 6(a), 6(b), 6(c), 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 11(c), 11(e), 14, 15, 16, 17, 19(a), 19(c), 20(a), 20(d), 21, and 22 and all subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction. Note that Column B should reflect only the election cycle-to-date totals (11/7/2018 through 6/23/2020). (52 U.S.C. § 30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C. § 434(b)) and 11 CFR § 104.3)

**4.** Schedule A of your report indicates that your committee may have failed to file one or more of the required 48-hour notices regarding "last minute" contributions (to include loans, in-kind contributions, and advances) received by your committee after the close of books for the 12 Day Pre-Special General Report (see attached). A principal campaign committee must notify the Commission, in writing, within 48 hours of any contribution of \$1,000 or more received between two and twenty days before an election. These contributions are then reported on the next report required to be filed by the committee. To ensure that the Commission is notified of last minute contributions of \$1,000 or more to your campaign, it is recommended that you review your procedures for checking contributions received during the aforementioned time period. The failure to file 48-hour notices may result in civil money penalties or legal enforcement action. (11 CFR § 104.5(f))

If any contribution of \$1,000 or more was incorrectly reported, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

**5.** Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why each disbursement was made. Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 17 of your report to clarify the following description(s): "Consulting," "Pay-by-pay," "Payroll feeds," and "Services rendered." For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursement, please refer to 11 CFR 104.3(b)(4)(i)(A).

Additional clarification regarding inadequate purposes of disbursement and a non-exhaustive list of acceptable purposes are available on the FEC website at <http://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/purposes-disbursement/>.

**6.** Schedule B of your report discloses disbursements to ADP for "Staff salaries" and "Staff salary." Please be advised that when itemizing disbursements to companies for payroll services, if the payment to the salary recipient aggregates

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in excess of \$200 in an election cycle, a memo entry including the name and address of the individual receiving the salary, as well as the date, amount, and purpose of the original disbursement must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information or provide clarifying information if memo items are not required. (11 CFR § 104.9)

**Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter.** Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. For information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit [www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees](http://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees). For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RAI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit [www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information](http://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information). Should you have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1167.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Stilla", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Denise Stilla  
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

**Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions**  
**Nate McMurray for Congress (C00666453)**

**Apparent Excessive Contributions from Individuals**

<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Election</b>
Baird, Brent D.	5/10/20	\$1,000.00	S2020
Baird, Brent D.	6/7/20	\$1,000.00	S2020
Baird, Brent D.	6/16/20	\$2,000.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	2/25/20	\$1,000.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	3/18/20	\$250.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	3/27/20	\$700.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	4/21/20	\$300.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	5/15/20	\$2,500.00	S2020
Beer, Avery	6/15/20	\$27.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	2/11/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	2/15/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	2/16/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	2/20/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	2/28/20	\$300.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	3/19/20	\$135.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	3/19/20	\$150.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	3/25/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	3/25/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	4/7/20	\$250.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	4/22/20	\$100.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/21/20	\$100.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/28/20	\$10.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/28/20	\$10.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/28/20	\$10.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/29/20	\$10.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	5/30/20	\$10.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/1/20	\$1,027.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/2/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/2/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/2/20	\$5.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/15/20	\$100.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/22/20	\$50.00	S2020
Fleischer, Cindy	6/23/20	\$2,355.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	2/28/20	\$500.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	3/9/20	\$500.00	S2020

**Apparent Excessive, Prohibited, and Impermissible Contributions**  
**Nate McMurray for Congress (C00666453)**

Sugarman, Gary	3/27/20	\$1,000.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	4/6/20	\$750.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	4/25/20	\$500.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	5/6/20	\$500.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	5/27/20	\$500.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	5/31/20	\$1,000.00	S2020
Sugarman, Gary	6/10/20	\$500.00	S2020

**Apparent Excessive Contributions from Committees**

<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Election</b>
Machinists Non Partisan Political League of the International Association of Machinists &	3/5/20	\$5,000.00	S2020
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers	6/20/20	\$5,000.00	S2020

**Contributions from Possible Unregistered Organizations**

<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Election</b>
Kathy Hochul, Friends for	6/5/20	\$1,000.00	S2020, Special

**Missing 48-Hour Notices**  
**Nate McMurray for Congress (C00666453)**

<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Election</b>
Sierra Club Political Action Committee	6/15/20	\$1,818.10	S2020, Special